

THE GUN LAKE TRIBE



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Supreme Court Rejects MichGO Appeal

Decision Clears Path for Gun Lake Casino Construction

Bradley, Michigan – Today the U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear an appeal from Michigan Gambling Opposition (MichGO), whose lawsuit had sought to prevent construction of the Gun Lake Tribe's proposed gaming facility. The Court's decision brings the litigation to its end and clears the way for construction of the Gun Lake Casino.

"We are very happy with the Supreme Court's decision to reject MichGO's appeal," said D.K. Sprague, Tribal Chairman. "It is, however, bittersweet because the Tribe and thousands of its supporters were irrevocably harmed by this lawsuit."

MichGO's Supreme Court petition was based on the argument that Congress improperly delegated to the Secretary of Interior the authority to take land into trust for Indian tribes. The same argument was rejected by the Supreme Court in three other, separate cases, over the last two years.

MichGO also sought to subject the Gun Lake Tribe to a separate case currently pending before the Supreme Court, wherein the State of Rhode Island argues that a tribe is not eligible to have trust lands if it was not federally recognized and under federal jurisdiction in 1934. The Tribe's founding namesake, Chief Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish, signed his first treaty with the United States in 1795. Additionally, the federal government previously determined that the Tribe has continuously existed as an Indian Tribe for over 200 years.

After the trust acquisition process is complete the Tribe will begin to negotiate in good faith with the State of Michigan to conclude a gaming compact that is beneficial for both respective governments.

At a later date the Tribe will release information pertinent to construction of the casino facility, hiring of employees, and selection of vendor contracts.

The Gun Lake Casino will be operated by the Tribe's management partner Station Casinos. FORTUNE Magazine has listed Station Casinos as a "Top 100 Companies to Work For" each of the last four years.

Electronic versions of this release, the Court's decision, a historical timeline, and Gun Lake Casino renderings are available at www.mbpi.org.

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The Gun Lake Tribe's proposed casino will create 1,800 direct jobs with a total average annual compensation package of \$40,000; 3,100 indirect jobs; and more than \$20 million per year in direct purchases of goods and services from West Michigan businesses.

For more information visit www.mbpi.org, and www.fogli.org